

To: Behringer, Caroline[Behringer.Caroline@epa.gov]
Cc: White, Terri-A[White.Terri-A@epa.gov]
From: binetti, victoria
Sent: Thur 2/20/2014 11:46:19 PM
Subject: RE: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

I just sent a similar message, thought I had lost this.

We are looking into that question, but don't have an answer (week or more away). We had previously referred another reporter to our water security website, which has general information about this (probability of persistence is related in large part to chemistry of the contaminant, with some info on partitioning, etc.), but not specific information related to MCHM.

EPA does have publically available documents that you, or others, may find useful about the various issues in cleaning a distribution system. These will not speak to the **specific** characteristics of any chemical or why some chemicals are harder to clean than others.
<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/emmerplan/index.cfm#pp8>

Terri, can this be used?--Vicky

From: Behringer, Caroline
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:54 PM
To: binetti, victoria
Subject: RE: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

Hey Vicky – Any follow up on the chemical behavior in pipes part?

Thanks for your help.

CB

Caroline Behringer

Deputy Press Secretary

Office of the Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office: (202) 564-0098

Cell: (202) 760-1732

From: binetti, victoria

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:17 PM

To: Behringer, Caroline; White, Terri-A; Jones, Enesta

Cc: Hull, George; Smith, Bonnie; schaffer, joan; Arguto, William; Capacasa, Jon; Senn, John; Loop, Travis; Lopez-Carbo, Maria; Burns, Francis; Travers, David; Allgeier, Steve

Subject: RE: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

Caroline, 1) I don't know, and 2) sounds right to me. I will try to find out the answer to #1.--
Vicky

From: Behringer, Caroline

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:14 PM

To: binetti, victoria; White, Terri-A; Jones, Enesta

Cc: Hull, George; Smith, Bonnie; schaffer, joan; Arguto, William; Capacasa, Jon; Senn, John; Loop, Travis; Lopez-Carbo, Maria; Burns, Francis; Travers, David; Allgeier, Steve

Subject: Re: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

Vicky - Was the author at EPA when the paper was written? If not, the reporter should get the reports herself.

Caroline Behringer

Deputy Press Secretary

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Cell: (202) 760-1732

From: binetti, victoria

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:11:39 PM

To: Behringer, Caroline; White, Terri-A; Jones, Enesta

Cc: Hull, George; Smith, Bonnie; schaffer, joan; Arguto, William; Capacasa, Jon; Senn, John; Loop, Travis; Lopez-Carbo, Maria; Burns, Francis; Travers, David; Allgeier, Steve

Subject: RE: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

At least one of the authors is currently an EPA employee (I recognize the name), but I don't know about the others. I will see if we can get the papers through our EPA Library resources. But I would think the WSJ would be able to do that, too.

I'll follow up with Water Security Division to see if there is information that we can offer on the chemical behavior in pipes, beyond referencing the reporter to the websites we provided to Ken Ward.

Terri, do you have sufficient information to answer the first group of questions? I'm copying Fran, to give him a heads up, in case you want more on site status.--Vicky

From: Behringer, Caroline

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 2:23 PM

To: White, Terri-A; Jones, Enesta

Cc: Hull, George; binetti, victoria; Smith, Bonnie; schaffer, joan; Arguto, William; Capacasa, Jon; Senn, John; Loop, Travis; Lopez-Carbo, Maria

Subject: RE: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

+OW for the questions we don't have answers to.

Can we confirm that these are EPA studies that she links to?

Caroline Behringer

Deputy Press Secretary

Office of the Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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From: White, Terri-A

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 2:17 PM

To: Behringer, Caroline; Jones, Eneida

Cc: Hull, George; binetti, victoria; Smith, Bonnie; schaffer, joan; Arguto, William; Capacasa, Jon

Subject: FW: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

Importance: High

All,

WSJ reporter called me, and I asked that she put her questions in an email. I've segmented her questions based on what we know and have already answered, and what we may need to confer with others on. I have a 2:30 meeting with my RA on another matter, but wanted to get this out to you so collectively, we can do our best to respond by COB today. Reporter told me she's writing for tomorrow afternoon posting.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

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From: Berzon, Alexandra [<mailto:Alexandra.Berzon@wsj.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 1:39 PM

To: White, Terri-A

Subject: question from the Wall Street Journal - urgent

Hi Terri, Good to talk right now. As I explained, we are looking at what steps are being taken to understand the lingering chemical contamination in West Virginia. I would like to talk to the people who are most engaged in this issue of chemical contamination both in West Virginia and on a national level. In WV we would like to know what is the EPA's involvement in terms of understanding why there still appears to be an odor from MCHM in some places in Charleston and some lingering health effects being reported. What work is the EPA still doing in West Virginia and what do they understand at this point about the situation? Do you know who came up with the flushing instructions to residents – was the EPA involved in that and what research was that based on?

I also would like to know more broadly what do we know about what happens when a chemical gets into water pipes and what testing/work is being done on this or has been done? I believe this would be part of the EPA's water security work.

I was also wondering if you or someone from the EPA might be able to send me these EPA studies or others that are most relevant.

<http://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/41203%28425%2957>

<http://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/9780784412312.308>

My deadline for this is later today.

Thanks very much.

Best,

Alexandra

Reporter
Wall Street Journal

424-204-4811

323-327-8194 (cell)